MARVEL

POWERS OF X

ISSUE 5 OF 6 — HICKMAN/SILVA/GRACIA

[kra_[0.1]
[koa_[2.1]

They will think we are doing one thing, but the truth is we are doing something altogether different.

-PROFESSOR X

[kra_[5.1]
[koa_[6.1]

[kra_[8.1]...]
[koa_[9.1]...]

[Xavier_alpha]

JONATHAN HICKMAN.................................[WRITER]
R.B. SILVA......................................[ARTIST]
MARTE GRACIA...............................[COLOR ARTIST]
VC's CLAYTON COWLES...........................[LETTERER]
TOM MULLER......................................[DESIGN]

R.B. SILVA & MARTE GRACIA..............[COVER ARTISTS]

MIKE HUDDLESTON / DAVID NAKAYAMA / DUSTIN WEAVER /
VALERIO SCHITI & MATTIA IACONO / JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER
/ SKOTTIE YOUNG................[VARIANT COVER ARTISTS]

ANNALISE BISSA.......................[ASSISTANT EDITOR]
JORDAN D. WHITE...............................[EDITOR]
C.B. CEBULSKI.........................[EDITOR IN CHIEF]
JOE QUESADA...................[CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER]
DAN BUCKLEY.................................[PRESIDENT]
ALAN FINE.........................[EXECUTIVE PRODUCER]

[05] POWERS OF X

[ISSUE FIVE].............FOR THE CHILDREN

X-MEN CREATED BY.................STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

[00_once...]
[00_more...]

[00_00....5]
[00_05....6]

[00_I......]
[00_need...]

[00_three..]

[00_xxxx_0.]

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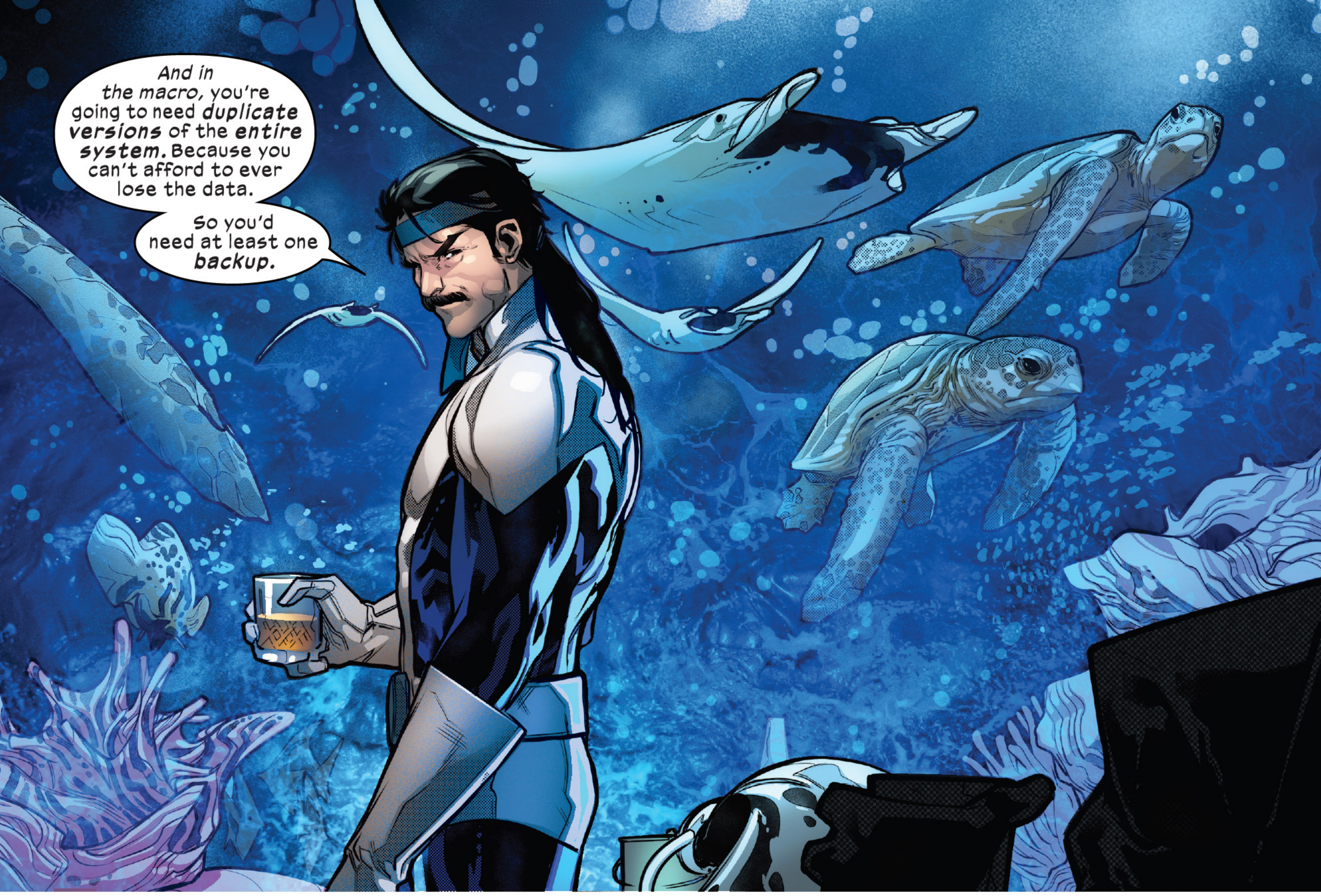
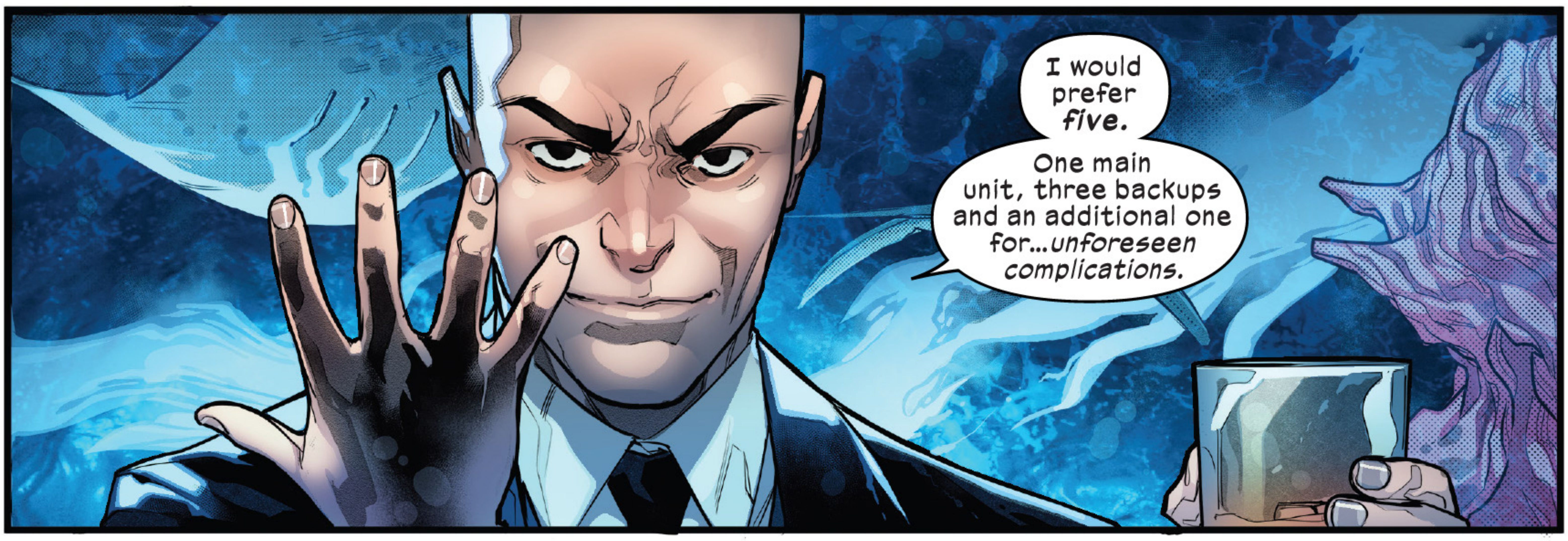
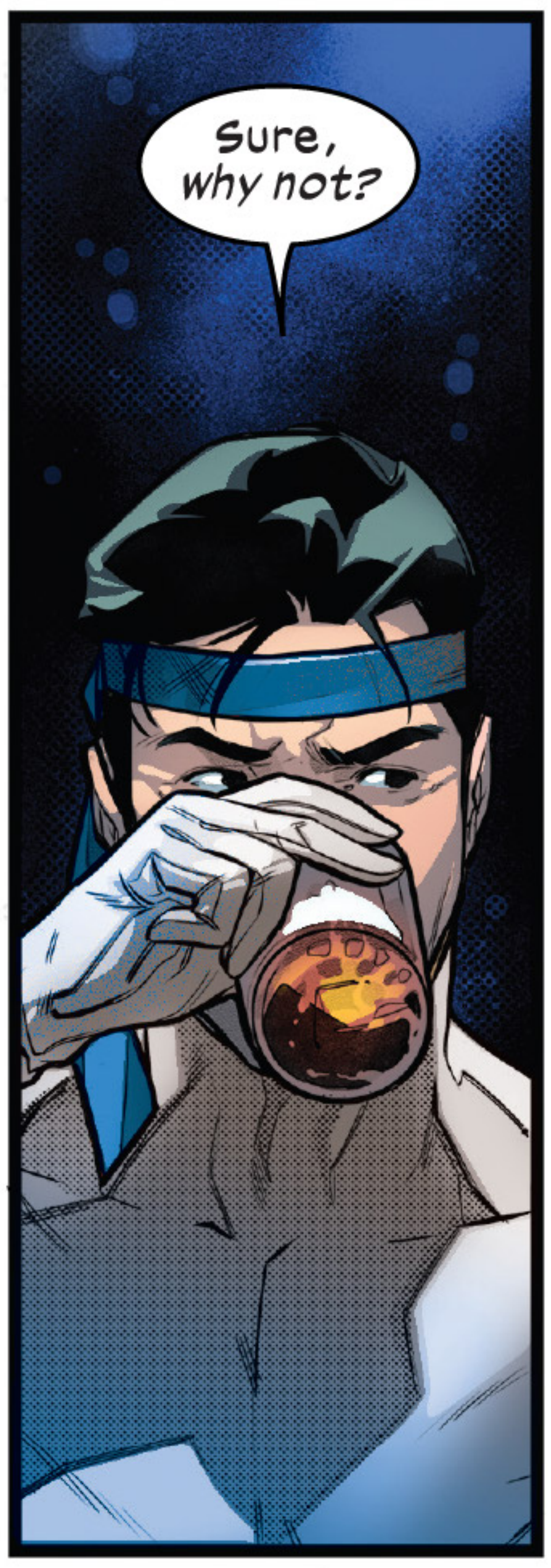
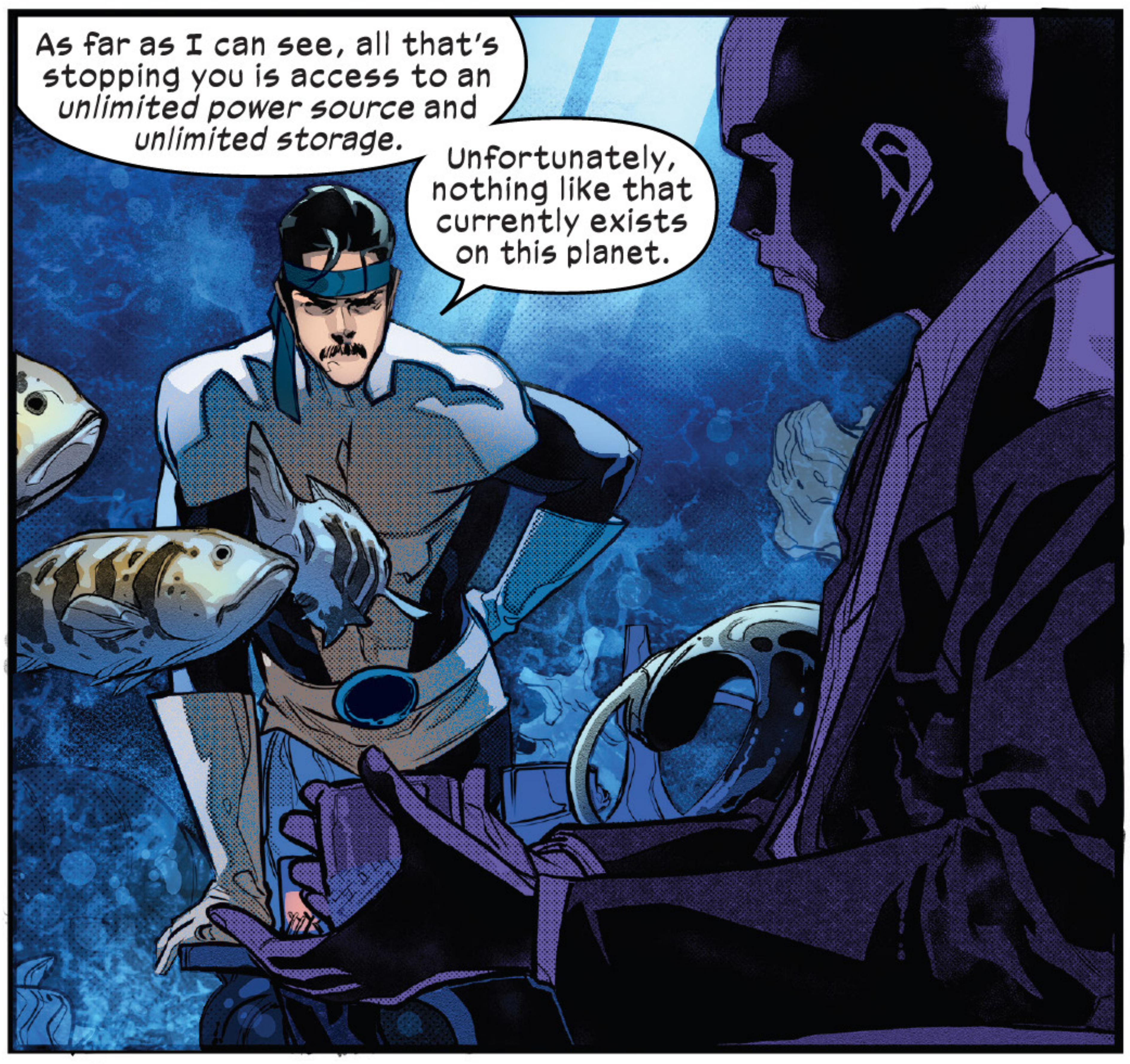
X°: The X-Men. Year One.
Dallas, Texas.
My question is...
Can it be done?
You know what they say, Professor--*there's nothing that can't be done.*
The real question is one of ***feasibility.***
For example, what if the energy cost of the improvements you want means we'd need access to a ***fusion reactor...****would that really be a workable solution?*
Let's say it would be.
Hypothetically.
Well... *now* we're talking.

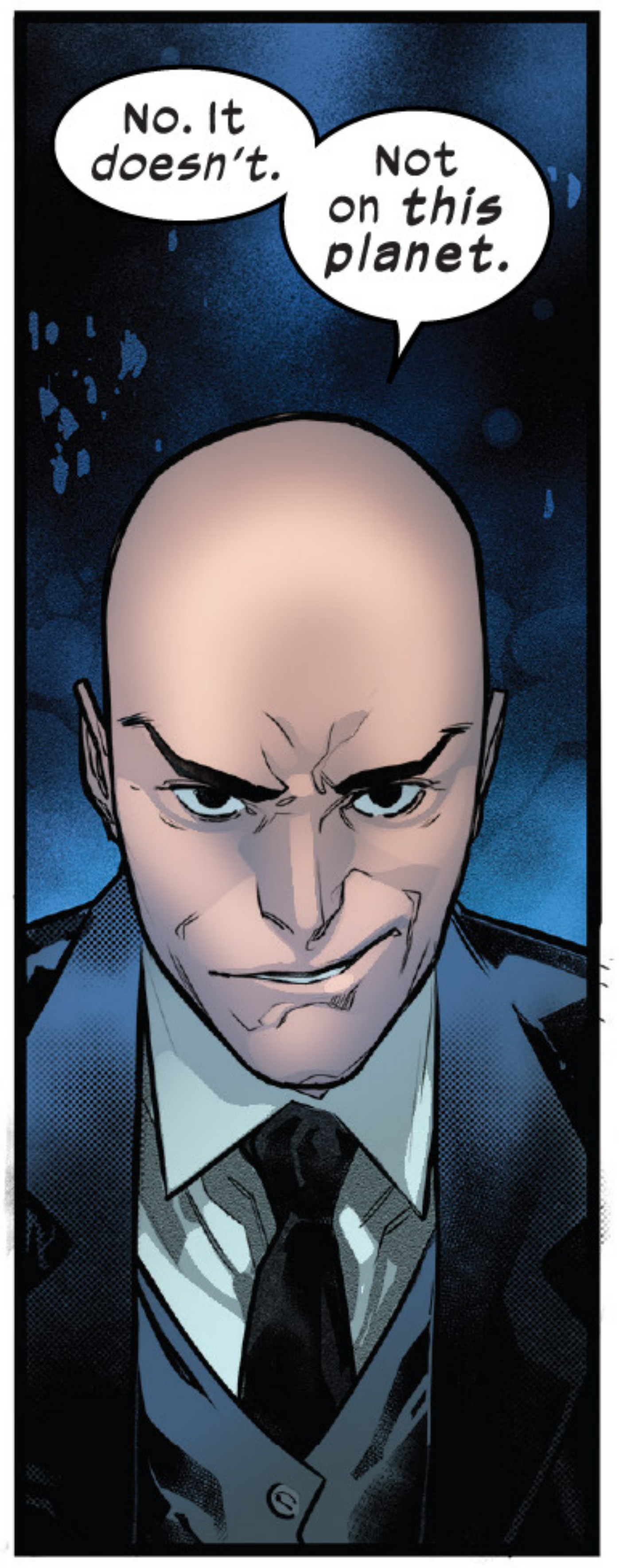
You're on your, what, **third** generation of Cerebro?
Fourth-- *counting the initial prototype--* but only that first one was solely my design, Forge.
Most of the improvements regarding range and sensitivity have been Henry McCoy's doing.
And now you want to use the current functionality of Cerebro-- *the ability to locate any mutant on the planet--*to also copy that mutant's mind.
To make a ***backup*** of a sentient being.
Yes, that's correct.
But in my *gentle broaching* of the subject with Henry, he was rather emphatic that it cannot be done.
Beast is *certainly smart...*
But this kind of ***machine building*** is, *well,* a bit beyond the good doctor's expertise.
As I see it, you have ***two problems...***
Volume-- there are *a lot* of mutant minds out there, Charles, and that number is growing every year.
Then there's ***redundancy.*** *In the micro,* you're talking about a database of all mutant minds that is going to have to account for updated versions of each mind...
For example, the difference between who you were ***last year*** and who you are ***this year...***


And in the macro, you're going to need duplicate versions of the entire system. Because you can't afford to ever lose the data.
So you'd need at least one backup.


I would prefer five.
One main unit, three backups and an additional one for...unforeseen complications.


Sure, why not?


As far as I can see, all that's stopping you is access to an unlimited power source and unlimited storage.
Unfortunately, nothing like that currently exists on this planet.


No. It doesn't.
Not on this planet.

I should have seen that coming.
Earthbound as you are, it's easy to forget you have access to *higher powers.*
There is a cloaked antimatter engine of Imperial design currently in Earth's orbit...
And I believe Shi'ar logic diamonds might be suitable for data storage.
I'm not sure...you'd have to tell me.
Okay.
Taking this a step further...you want me to construct an entirely new system or integrate it into...the existing one?
As you very well know, the only person qualified to make that call is you, Forge.
The only question is...are you--*or are you not*--going to build it for me?

[00.Cerebro........X]
[00...............0]

CEREBRO

VERSION 7.0 BUILD [C_2]

[Cerebro]............[V_7.00]
[Build__]............[BLD_C2]

Originally powered by a Shi'ar antimatter engine, the current build of Cerebro now runs on a Krakoan No-Place vent, converted by Forge to act as an unlimited power source for mutants living on the island. Shi'ar logic diamonds still remain the primary choice for data storage and are also how Sinister's DNA sequencing is cached.

[NOTE: Forge's increasing mastery of "Krakoan tech" continues unabated. The transition of his prowess with traditional machine building to biological machine building remains impressive. A revolution in Krakoan technology seems imminent.]

FUNCTIONALITY

Once a week, Charles Xavier copies the "latest version" of every mutant mind to multiple redundant "cradles" located in several locations across the world. These backups are the essence of each mutant. How they think, how they feel, their memories -- their very being. This partial process takes approximately three hours.

Once a year, Xavier does a "hard backup" of each mutant on the planet. Unlike the weekly backups, this process is not a partial backup but a "fresh copy" of a whole mind. This process takes three days, during which the process cannot be interrupted and Xavier cannot be disturbed.

[NOTE: As previously stated, while there has been no experimentation regarding what happens when you combine a mutant MIND with a HUSK that is not their own, it is believed that unless a mutant has some primary or secondary ability to overcome the potential damage such a mismatch would cause, it's likely to be harmful and possibly fatal.]

[NOTE: It is possible for a telepathic operator to replace their own mind with a previous [legacy] version, but doing so is incredibly difficult and would most likely require a skilled and experienced operator.]

[NOTE: Charles Xavier has done this twice.]

CRADLE LOCATIONS

[1.]..................................[House of X]
[2.]..................................[Island M]
[3.]..................................[Summer House]
[4.]..................................[The Pointe]
[5.]..................................[Moira's No-Place]

[CRADLE].................[LOC]
[01.......................05]

X^1: The X-Men. Year Ten.
The Louvre.
Everyone out.

You can stop skulking around. It's *unbecoming.*
And, frankly, you haven't been *subtle enough* for that kind of work in quite some time.
Hello, Emma.
I felt you looking for me at the Canova, but this seemed a more appropriate place to meet.
Why are you here, Charles?
For the same reason I am.
To see *you,* Ms. Frost.
Ah, so it's the two of you together...
This is either going to be incredibly *heroic* or terrifyingly *reckless.*
Dare I ask which?

Come now, Emma, where's *your faith?*
Couldn't it just as easily be ***both?***
What do you really want, Charles?
I'm quite busy of late.
I've noticed. And because I know the Hellfire Corporation is an international prime mover, I was wondering if you've heard rumblings of a certain company being on the verge of delivering ***miracle drugs*** to ***market?***
I'm aware of *certain rumors.*
And are you aware that-- *through a series of shell corporations and offshore interests*--that I am the one behind this company?
You were *listening* earlier when I pointed out your ***lack of subtlety,*** right?
Fair enough.
But the move behind that move is we're going to use the need for those drugs as leverage in the establishment of a mutant nation-state.
Krakoa.
So. Not *heroic* at all, just ***reckless.***

Let's put all the mutants on an island again. Gather them together in one place. Put a giant target on it.
You should *know* better.
And *you*... you think I'd actually help with this?
Not so much *this*... as helping us to form a ***mutant government.***
A government? For a nation that doesn't exist, based on economic ramifications of an imaginary drug, in a world that historically would rather *kill us* than *trust us.*
Aren't the two of you getting a little ***ahead of yourselves?***
In one month, the population of Krakoa will--*seemingly overnight*--expand from several mutants to well over 100,000.
Three months later, it will be *five times that.*
And by this time next year it could be as high as two million.
We are not *ahead of ourselves,* Ms. Frost. We are ***woefully behind.***

My god...
You're serious, aren't you?
This is *that day* you've been *waiting for.*
To make **right** all the things that went **wrong.**
What's going to make it **different** *this time?*
Let us show you.

Later.
Krakoa.
-Sigh-
One more time, then. For the children.
All right.
I'm in.
Tell me what you need.

The company--*companies, actually*--that I've created to process and manufacture the drugs are operating at scale and structured in a manner that makes intellectual theft almost impossible.
Add in the fact that the raw materials themselves--*the flowers*--only grow where Krakoa wills...
...and any argument against our having a monopoly evaporates.
Which is where *you* come in.
Because you cannot trust the distribution of your product to humans, and the Hellfire Corporation already has the international reach to do so.
You want me to become the East India trading company of mutantdom, *don't you?*
Yes.
I won't lie...
I like the ***taste*** of it.
We would be willing to formalize the arrangement, of course. We were thinking a ***twenty***-year--
Ahem.
Yes...
As I was saying. We were thinking a ***fifty***-year exclusive contract with you as sole distributor.
Better.

And--*leaving* behind talk of money and getting back to the real matter at hand--we're offering **two seats** on the twelve-person council that will act as the **first government** of **Krakoa.**
The council is temporary, I assume? Until a more formal structure is agreed upon?
Perhaps. We'll find our way as we grow. Regardless, it's the spark that sets things in motion.
And what begins as a fire will grow to an ***inferno.***
Okay.
But why two seats?
We need you to bring Sebastian Shaw back into the Hellfire.

But I just got rid of him.
We need you to be the face of our ***legitimate trade*** with the nations of the world, Emma.
The ***consummate politician*** who partners with countries with which we have official relationships.
And for the ones we do not...
You want a Black King to run the black-book operations into countries who reject our sovereignty.
Get the ***drugs in.*** Get the *mutants* out.
Can we count on you? *Will you do it?*
...
I'll do it.
But ***not*** for two seats on the council...
I'll be needing ***three.***

[00.Quiet...........0]
[00.Council.........0]

THE QUIET COUNCIL OF KRAKOA

The twelve-person ruling council of Krakoa that decides how the mutant nation handles external conflicts and the internal laws of the island itself.

There is some debate as to whether this council will continue in perpetuity or if some other system of government will replace it.

[01_03]............[Aut_00]
[04_06]............[Win_00]

—

AUTUMN

[01]............................[________________PROFESSOR X]
[02]............................[____________________MAGNETO]
[03]............................[[redacted]]

WINTER

[04]............................[[redacted]]
[05]............................[[redacted]]
[06]............................[[redacted]]

SPRING

[07]............................[BLACK KING]_[SEBASTIAN SHAW]
[08]............................[WHITE QUEEN]____[EMMA FROST]
[09]............................[[redacted]]

SUMMER

[10]............................[[redacted]]
[11]............................[[redacted]]
[12]............................[[redacted]]

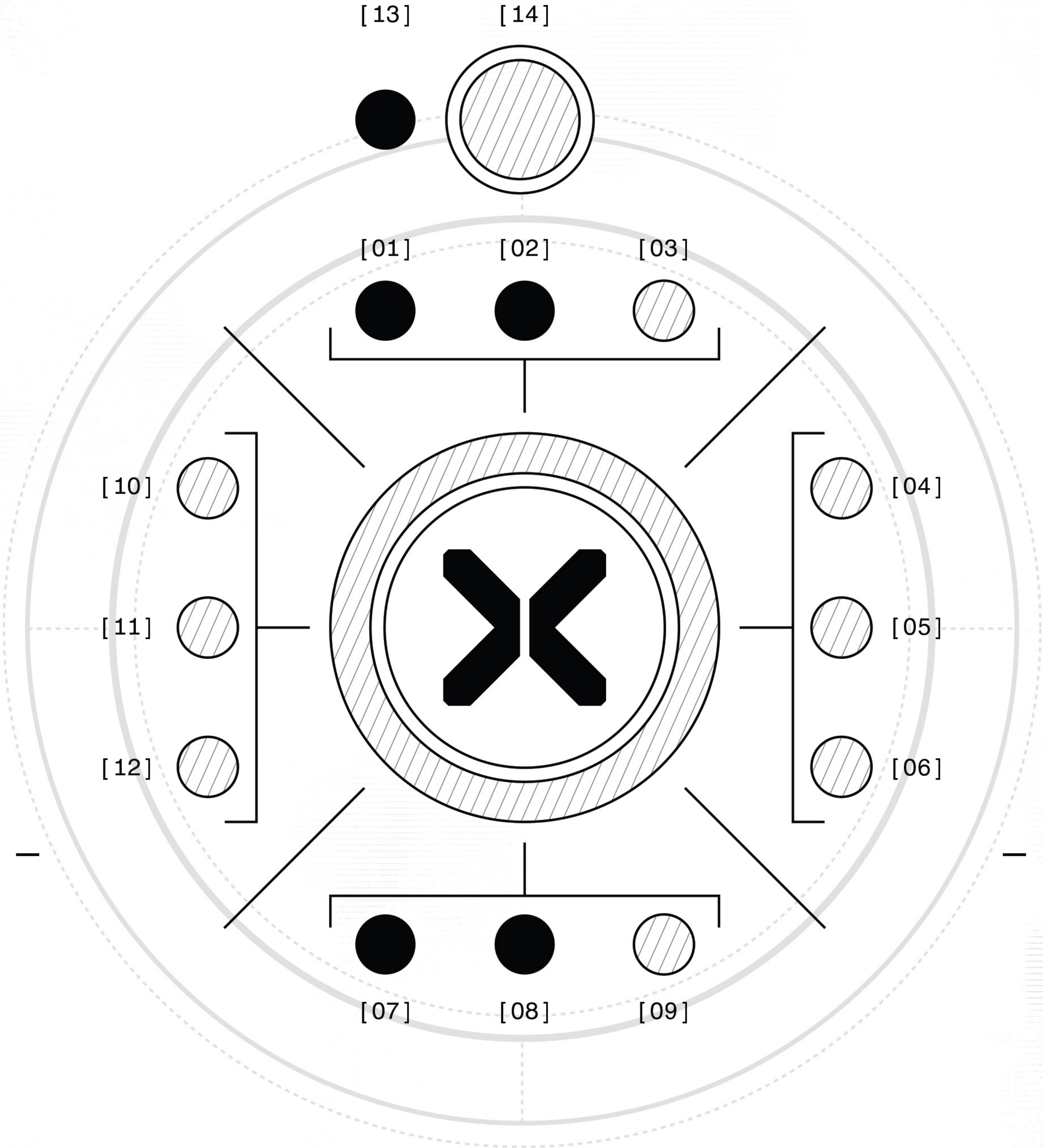
KRAKOA

[13]............................[_____________________CYPHER]
[14]............................[_____________________KRAKOA]

[07_09]............[Spr_00]
[10_12]............[Sum_00]

[Krakoa]...........[Cypher]

[00.Silence........0]
[00................0]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[LAW]....................[OF]
[OO.....................land]

X^1: The X-Men. Year Ten.
A summoning.
Mutants of Earth, we are building something...
All of you-- all our brothers, all our sisters-- *all.*
Now is the time to put aside all differences and realize we are one people.
So I am extending to you...*an invitation.*
Join us...
For you have a place here.

It is a place of refuge...of sanctuary...
It is your *home*...
And we will be *waiting* for you here...*on Krakoa.*
"So let me see if I understand you clearly.
"You're inviting all the mutants on this planet to live together on your *perfect little island.*"

The good...
The evil...
And those beyond such quaint descriptors.
Yes, we are, Namor. And we want you to join us.
Please... *come home.*
It's kind of you to ask.
But if I'm comprehending the ***real reason*** you're doing this, it's because you've finally realized that you are *not them...*
...and that they will never accept you or love you--*not because you don't deserve it*--but because they ***envy*** you.
They hate your ***superiority.*** And they ***always will.***
It's good that you've finally figured this out...but let me ask you:
Do I strike you as someone who's *just now realized* how much better I am than everyone else?
And do you actually think I believe that you feel that way too?
Go away, little man.
And don't ***come back*** until you really ***mean it.***

STAN'S SOAPBOX • MAY 1969

TINS

RVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS • MARVEL B

ING ANNOUNCEMENTS TO YAW

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969 (3) Barry
10. Congratu-
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So how about helping
strip would you

STAN'S SOAPBOX

For many years we've been trying, in our own bumbling way, to illustrate that love is a far greater force, a far greater power than hate. Now we don't mean you're expected to go around like a pirouetting Pollyanna, tossing posies at everyone who passes by, but we do want to make a point. Let's consider three men: Buddha, Christ, and Moses . . . men of peace, whose thoughts and deeds have influenced countless millions throughout the ages — and whose presence still is felt in every corner of the earth. Buddha, Christ, and Moses . . . men of good will, men of tolerance, and especially men of love. Now, consider the practitioners of hate who have sullied the pages of history. Who still venerates their words? Where is homage still paid to their memory? What banners still are raised to their cause? The power of love — and the power of hate. Which is most truly enduring? When you tend to despair . . . let the answer sustain you.

Excelsior!

Smiley

GRAINGER, North Carolina . . . our pal SAL BUSCEMA, Virginia; while Jaunty J. STERANKO and Joltin' J. CRAIG both have their pads in Pennsylvania . . . Torrid TOM SUTTON, Massachusetts . . . JIM (Madman) MOONEY, Connecticut . . . and Valiant VINCE COLLETTA, Jumpin' JOHNNY SEVERIN, and Genial GENE COLAN, all nesting in New Jersey! The rest of us share the same high taxes and traffic jams in New York and Long Island — darn it! (And we never DID find out where Honest Irv holes up!)

Now, before cutting out, we've just gotta tell you about Jolly SOLLY BRODSKY. A
days ago he announced that he, stun-
the children were finally
to prepare

CAPTAIN AMER
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STAN LEE
FOREVER

X^3: The X-Men.
Year One Thousand.
I understand you have an answer.
ANSWER-WE-[PHALANX]-HAVE
Whatever pleases you pleases we...
We would hear your answer.

THESE-ARE-OUR-[PHALANX]-TERMS
AIEEEEEE!!!
BY-THEM-WE-[PHALANX]-ACCEPT

Later.
They agreed.
Why, then, did the Phalanx *destroy* the Elder?
There's really not enough data to make an error-free projection, Librarian...
Best guess, then.
Very well. As humanity evolved, so did machines--*it's how you modeled us...*
After yourselves. So we could become more. So we could *improve.*
Together, we've harnessed the entire power of this planet and we are approaching the ability to harness the sum total of our solar system--*which is Promethean*--but on a universal scale...*not mighty.*
Unlike them.
I--*along with all thinking machines on this planet*--am composed of smaller, self-improving and self-replicating machines.
The Phalanx operates in this same manner. *More sophisticated,* yes...but similar.
This is almost certainly ***not true*** for their ***masters.***
They are most likely machines made of machines as well--but not technological.
No, they are probably constructed using the fundamental components of all things. Elementary matter...universal particles...
Electrons, protons, leptons, possibly even primordial *kirbons.*
These theoretical constructs would be massively dense machine brains that would dwarf any thinking machine we could imagine.
The real question is how dense are they?
Because--*if they are dense enough*--then they could collapse space and time around them--and become ***singularities.***
I know this part. It's a ***Titan theory...***
It states that at the heart of every black hole in the universe there is actually a *super-massive machine brain...*
...each one containing the *collective intelligence* of a ***society*** so advanced that it collapsed in on itself.

Yes. That's an argument for independent *Titan societies...* and I'm sure those exist...
But it's more than that. Ask yourself... what is a ***black hole?***
It's a *wormhole.* A *bridge.* From one singularity to the next.
You have to consider that it's very possible each black hole isn't a ***separate machine.***
It's all one ***single machine*** that stretches its tendrils across the entirety of the known universe.
One giant societal intelligence so far beyond us it might as well be that god mankind spent so much time looking for.
Fascinating. *Terrifying...* but that doesn't explain why the Phalanx ate the Elder.
We reached beyond ourselves to build a World-mind and attract a galactic suitor-- ***a protector...***
Instead we attracted ***a predator.*** And a hungry one at that.
The Phalanx are built to consume worthy cultures and add that consumed societal intelligence to theirs-- *and by extension* to their masters'.
But this is taxing work. And the energy cost is high. They must ***eat*** to ***survive.***
I still don't understand why--
It's not an incremental deal, Librarian. They've *accepted* our overture.
"Converting matter to energy is how they thrive in service to their masters.
"We asked for sovereignty, but it came with an unexpected price.
"Tomorrow, they will absorb our collective intelligence into theirs...and the *history* and *consciousness* of this planet will live on ***forever.***
"But in doing so, *they will feed--* ***consuming*** this ***entire planet...***"
...and leaving no living thing *behind.*

[Titan ....[001]_01]
[Stronghold....[001]_05]

TYPES OF SOCIETIES [UNIVERSAL]

SI: 10,000,000
TITAN

A Titan is an interstellar society that has become so advanced that the density of its unified intelligence has collapsed space-time into a singularity.

All universal societies exist in partially atemporal space, but unlike Strongholds or Dominions, Titans are a singular, hermetic intellect. Isolationist and not a collective or a group.

Like all universal societies, on the Kardashev scale, a Titan represents a Type O civilization.

—

SI: 100,000,000
STRONGHOLD

A Stronghold is a small network of connected Titans [normally five or fewer] typically confined to a galactic cluster or a dense collection of stacked galaxies.

Unlike Titans, Strongholds are not lone wolf societies that seek to avoid conflict with other universal societies. Strongholds are warring factions seeking to actively destroy or absorb other Strongholds in order to achieve Dominion status and often challenge the sovereignty of Dominions themselves.

If machines have religions, expansion and conquest are the altar at which Strongholds worship.

—

SI: [Undefined]
DOMINION

A Dominion is a collective of ten or more Titans acting in unison to control a particular sector [or sectors] of space in both area and epochs of time. And while the minimum number of Titans needed to compose a Dominion is ten, the average number of Titans in a Dominion is much higher than that.

For example, the local Dominion controlling the sector including Earth space is a collective numbering 112 Titans.

It’s worth noting that, in terms of intellect and power, a Dominion is not colloquially “godlike” but categorically “godlike” and indistinguishable from any and all mythic or religious comparisons.

[NOTE: Beyond universal abstracts [under which Dominions are seen as “naturally occurring”], the only primal threats that a Dominion fears are the World-Eater, Galactus, and the singular universal manifestation of life, the Phoenix.]

[SI]-..................[0]
[SI]-.......(DOMINION)][0]

[galactic_]...0.000
[universal]...0.000

[TECHNARCH]

[WORLDMIND]

[PHALANX]

[TITAN]

[STRONGHOLD]

[DOMINION]

[universal]...0.000
[__abyss__]...0.000

[at__[0.0]
[lan_[0.0]

When you see me again, understand what that means.

-NAMOR

[____[0.0]
[tis_[0.0]

[ATL_[0.0]....]
[atl_[0.0]....]

[Prince_of_all]

READING ORDER

TWO SERIES THAT ARE ONE:

HOUSE OF X #1:	JULY 24, 2019
POWERS OF X #1:	JULY 31, 2019
HOUSE OF X #2:	AUGUST 7, 2019
POWERS OF X #2:	AUGUST 14, 2019
POWERS OF X #3:	AUGUST 21, 2019
HOUSE OF X #3:	AUGUST 28, 2019
HOUSE OF X #4:	SEPTEMBER 4, 2019
POWERS OF X #4:	SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
HOUSE OF X #5:	SEPTEMBER 18, 2019
POWERS OF X #5:	SEPTEMBER 25, 2019
HOUSE OF X #6:	OCTOBER 2, 2019
POWERS OF X #6:	OCTOBER 9, 2019

[hou__[0.0]
[se___[0.0]
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[ofX_[6.6]

[kra_[0.6]...]
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[kra_[0.6]...]
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ZONE